Message Text

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EXDIS-HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. GREECE: BITSIOS ANGRY, WARNS US OFFICIALS

FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS HAS COMPLAINED TO AMBASSADOR KUBISCH ABOUT STATEMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO "US OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON" THAT CARAMANLIS HAS NO OBJECTION TO THE RESUMPTION OF US AID TO TURKEY. BITSIOS SAID:

- -- CARAMANLIS IS UPSET AND WANTS HIS CONCERN CONVEYED TO WASHINGTON.
- --NO GREEK OFFICIAL CAN BE EXPECTED TO SIGNAL IN ANY WAY THAT HE IS IN FAVOR OF OR INDIFFERENT TO US MILITARY AID TO "A COUNTRY WHERE SUCH ARMS MAY LATER BE USED AGAINST GREECE."
- -- THE GOG CANNOT ALLOW US OFFICIALS TO APPEAR TO CONFIDENTIAL

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BE SPEAKING FOR THE GREEK GOVERNMENT AND BITSIOS WARNED THAT IF HIS SOURCES WERE CORRECT THE GOG WOULD HAVE TO ISSUE SOME STATEMENT ON THE SUBJECT AGAIN.

EMBASSY COMMENT: KUBISCH HOPES NO US OFFICIALS ARE GUILTY OF SUCH STATEMENTS, BUT DOES NOT EXCLUDE THE POSSIBILITY THAT BITSIOS RAISED THIS AS A PRECAUTIONARY DEMARCHE. (CONFIDENTIAL) ATHENS 5203, 7/11 (EXDIS).

2. EUROPEAN ACTIVITY ON ISRAELI SUSPENSION ISSUE

THE US MISSION TO THE UN REPORTS THAT A SURVEY OF THE EC-9 MISSIONS SHOWS THAT EUROPEAN EFFORTS TO PREVENT THE ARABS FROM RAISING THE ISRAELI SUSPENSION ISSUE AT JIDDA HAVE BEEN ,PITIFULLY INADEQUATE." THE EC-9 DEMARCHE TO EGYPT WAS NOT ADEQUATE TO THE STATED PURPOSE OF PROVIDING EGYPT WITH "MORE AMMUNITION" IN DISSUADING MILITANT ARABS FROM PRESSING THE MATTER, PARTICULARLY SINCE IT WAS NOT SUPPLEMENTED WITH HARD WORK IN OTHER ARAB CAPITALS. THE RECORD OF BILATERAL REPRESENTATIONS IS APPARENTLY EVEN WORSE WITH THE RECORD SHOWING:

- --THE FRENCH HAVE DONE THE MOST, STRONGLY EXPRESSING THEIR VIEWS TO KHADDAM IN PARIS AND SENDING INSTRUCTIONS TO THEIR EMBASSIES IN 26 ARAB AND NON-ALIGNED NATIONS.
- --THE BRITISH AND THE GERMANS ARE UNAWARE OF ANY APPROACHES MADE BY THEIR GOVERNMENTS. (CONFIDENTIAL) USUN 3288, 7/11 (LIMDIS).
- 3. MADAGASCAR: TROOPS CLOSE NASA STATION

EMBASSY TANANARIVE REPORTS THAT THE SUPREME REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL (SRC) FOUND THE CHARGE'S NOTE OF JULY 10 UNACCEPTABLE. THE TROOPS SUBSEQUENTLY ORDERED THE STATION TO CLOSE DOWN IMMEDIATELY. THE CHARGE PROTESTED THIS ACTION TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE, WHO TOLD THE CHARGE THAT THE CLOSURE WAS "PROVISIONAL" BUT WOULD BECOME PERMANENT IF THE US FAILED TO PRESENT CONFIDENTIAL

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A SATISFACTORY NEW PROPOSAL BY JULY 14. (CONFIDENTIAL) TANANARIVE 1217 AND 1218, 7/11 (EXDIS).

- 4. MIDDLE EAST
- A. ARAFAT ON ISRAELI SUSPENSION

EMBASSY BEIRUT HAS LEARNED FROM EDITOR-IN-CHIEF JIHAD KHAZEN THAT THE UNIDENTIFIED PALESTINIAN LEADER INTER-VIEWED JULY 8 IN THE DAILY STAR WAS ARAFAT. THE PLO LEADER:

--ESTIMATED THAT THE VOTE IN THE UNGA TO SUSPEND

ISRAEL WILL FALL SHORT OF THE NECESSARY TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY:

--SAID THAT THE SHOWDOWN WAS NEEDED TO PRESSURE THE US INTO FULL RECOGNITION OF THE PLO;

--EXPLAINED, HOWEVER, THAT "FORCE" AGAINST AMERICANS SHOULD BE USED WITH UTMOST DISCRETION AND THAT THERE WERE LIMITS THAT THE RESISTANCE MOVEMENT SHOULD NOT GO BEYOND.

EMBASSY COMMENT: ARAFAT, PREOCCUPIED WITH THE MORGAN CASE AND WITH "REJECTIONIST" DEFIANCE OF HIS LEADERSHIP, WISHES TO PUT HIS COMMENTS ON RECORD AND PERHAPS STATE HIS VIEWS REGARDING LIMITS OF APPROPRIATE FEDAYEEN ACTION VIS-A-VIS THE US. REGARDING ARAFAT'S VIEW THAT THE CAMPAIGN IS DIRECTED AT SECURING US RECOGNITION, THE EMBASSY POINTS OUT THAT THE LOGICAL IMPLICATION OF THIS FOCUS IS THAT THE CAMPAIGN'S OBJECTIVES ARE VERY LIMITED AND WHAT ARAFAT REGARDS AS A SIGNAL ENDS UP AS A WHISPER.

B. LEAK TO DAYAN CAUSES STIR

ACCORDING TO AN ISRAELI PRESS REPORT SUBSEQUENTLY CONFIRMED BY THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE:

--PERES SHOWED DAYAN IN A JERUSALEM HOTEL A TOP CONFIDENTIAL

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SECRET CABLE FROM DINITZ ON THE SINAI NEGOTIATIONS.

--DAYAN READ AND RETURNED THE MESSAGE WHICH THEN FELL ON THE HOTEL FLOOR TO BE LATER RECOVERED AND RETURNED BY AN ARAB HOTEL EMPLOYEE.

EMBASSY COMMENT: PERES WILL NOT RESIGN OVER THIS INCIDENT, NOR IS IT LIKELY TO HURT HIM POLITICALLY. THE INCIDENT HOWEVER APPEARS TO CONFIRM THE WIDELY-HELD ASSUMPTION THAT PERES DOES NOT REACH DECISIONS ON MAJOR ISSUES WITHOUT FIRST CONSULTING HIS LONG-STANDING POLITICAL MENTOR, DAYAN. (CONFIDENTIAL) BEIRUT 8857, AND (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE) TEL AVIV 4414, 7/11.

5. ARRESTS IN INDIA TOTAL OVER 6,000

EMBASSY NEW DELHI ESTIMATES THAT WELL OVER 6,000 PEOPLE HAVE BEEN ARRESTED SINCE THE JUNE 26 DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY. FOUR THOUSAND OF THESE CAN BE SAID TO HAVE

BEEN ARRESTED FOR POLITICAL REASONS AND THE REMAINDER FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE GOI'S EMERGENCY ECONOMIC DECREES.

AT LATEST COUNT	T, THIRTY-NINE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMI	ENT HAVE
BEEN DETAINED.	(CONFIDENTIAL) NEW DELHI 9362, 7/11.	INGERSOLL

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